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Cloak-and-dagger to go on display

By Leslie Phillips USA TODAY

WASHINGTON — "What has become of that remarkable Agent Z — I don't seem to be getting any information from him anymore."

Sounds like vintage cloakand-dagger fare but in fact it was written by Gen. George Washington during one of the greatest intelligence wars, the American Revolution.

"For a man who couldn't tell a lie about chopping down a cherry tree, he sure dropped some whoppers in psychological warfare," notes Col. Walter Pforzheimer, a retired CIA officer and intelligence historian.

The once-covert exploits of "Agent Z" and countless other spies throughout American his-

tory-could fill a museum. And that's just what a group of intelligence buffs are trying to do.

Strategic support has come from a Senate resolution endorsing the idea philosophically, although not financially. And the National Historic Intelligence Museum Association, has operatives snooping about for an appropriate space and \$2 million in private funding.

No money has been raised vet.

"The James Bond image is not the true reflection of the intelligence community," says John Greaney, executive director of the Association of Former Intelligence Officers, then adding wistfully: "Were that it was."

The museum, he says, ought to counteract this image, to

"demonstrate the benefits that have evolved" from espionage and to make the information available to a broad audience.

Most historical intelligence artifacts are either on military installations or in university archives and inaccessible to the general public.

For example, Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., houses a 6,000-volume collection of espionage literature; Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Va., owns a collection from the renowned code breaker William F. Friedman, and the John F. Kennedy Library in Boston has formerly classified photographs of Cuban missile installations.

Pforzheimer, former curator of the CIA historical collection, has a well-known private collection and the Smithsonian Institution owns a U-2 spy plane that will be exhibited in 1985.

The idea for a museum was planted about seven years ago by Martin Cramer, a longtime government employe who worked briefly for the CIA.

Plans call for the museum to be independent of government intelligence agenices. Naturally, exhibits on current spy practices are out of the question. CIA Director William Casey endorses the idea but warns the agency's contribution would be limited.

Says Pforzheimer. "There is all sorts of stuff of interest that ought to be preserved. And I think it's more interesting to some kids than a bunch of jewelry or a group of rocks."



PFORZHEIMER: Former CIA curator holds Mata Hari's final visa application.